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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FT GREELY
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IMFG-MW

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Installation Policy Memorandum #30, Child Youth Supervision and Babysitting

1. REFERENCE:

a. Memorandum, Headquarters, United States Army Community and Family Support Center, CFSC-CYS, 11 July 2000, Subject: Out of School Child Supervision Requirements for Elementary and Middle School Children and Youth During Parental Duty Hours.

b. AR 608-10, CDS Babysitting Training and Referral Service, August 1997.

2. PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to establish Fort Greely policy for the supervision of children that is in compliance with the above listed HQDA policy. While recognizing that the care and supervision of children is a parental responsibility, this policy establishes the minimum supervision requirements for children who reside on, or are guests on, Fort Greely. Research shows that unsupervised children are at greater risk for personal injury, injury to other persons and property, early sexual activity, substance abuse and are more apt to engage in vandalism and petty crimes. The National Center for Juvenile Justice shows the majority of juvenile violent crimes are committed between the hours of 1600 and 1800.

3. DEFINITIONS: "supervision" is the act of watching, directing and guiding a child's activities in order to ensure their safety and well-being. It is also a planned, consistent way to provide ongoing care for children to include necessities of nourishment, sanitation, and well being. Parental supervision requires that a parent knows where their children are, what they are doing and to establish limits on their activities. They should take into consideration the harshness of the Alaskan environment, the varying levels of maturity and any special needs of their children.

4. POLICY: As defined below and in Table 1, this policy is based on a child's grade in school and the child's age. Table 2 is an age-grade conversion chart for children. During the summer school break period, children are considered to still be in the grade they just completed. Incidents of unsupervised children should be reported to the Fort Greely DA Police Desk at 873-COPS, who will investigate the incident.

a. Newborn through 1st day of Kindergarten: Children in this category require continual supervision and may never be left alone or unattended.

b. Kindergarten through 1st day of 6th Grade: Children in this category may not be left alone at home or in a vehicle but may be allowed to play outside provided they are within sight or hearing distance of a parent or person who has agreed to supervise the child's activities. 4th and 5th graders may walk to and from school and other DOD-sanctioned activities alone. Children in this category may not provide babysitting services.

c. 6th Grade through 1st day of 10th Grade: Youth in this category may be allowed to remain at home alone for up to 10 hours, if they are sufficiently mature to articulate and follow an emergency plan. However, parents must have a prearranged, verifiable telephone check-in plan or a prearranged, verifiable plan for a neighbor or friend to physically check on the youth at least once during the time the youth is home alone. Youth in this category are not allowed to remain home alone overnight.

d. 10th Grade through 12th Grade: Youth in grades 10-12 may be allowed to remain home alone for up to 24 hours if sufficiently mature to articulate and follow an emergency plan. Parents must have a prearranged, verifiable telephone check-in plan with their youth or a prearranged, verifiable plan for a neighbor or friend to physically check on the youth at least twice during the time the youth is home alone in excess of 10 hours. Youth must know where one parent is and know how to contact that parent.

5. BABYSITTING:

a. Babysitting is defined as a person entrusted to care for child/children when the parents are away.

b. Selections and supervision of a babysitter is the sole responsibility of the parent. Parents should carefully select babysitters to ensure the sitter is mature and experienced enough to adequately care for the number, ages and maturity of the children.

c. Parents are responsible for providing instructions to their babysitters in areas that cover important issues regarding each child, their emergency plan, emergency contact information and fire evacuation, as a minimum.

d. Parents are encouraged to review each babysitter carefully. Check their references and observe their interaction and manageability with their children prior to utilizing them as a babysitter.

e. Parents are strongly encouraged to ensure that the babysitter has been trained in infant/Child CPR, Basic First Aid, proper care giving techniques and have attended the babysitting course. The American Red Cross provides babysitter training to children 11 years of age and older. Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) will maintain a certified babysitter list that is available for all community members to use. By Army Regulation 608-10, youth must be 13 years of age to be placed on the community referral list.

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f. Youth who are 13 years of age and above may provide babysitting services on post, in the home of the child being cared for. However, youth who are 13 years of age through the 1st day of 10th grade may not babysit in excess of 10 hours per day. Youth in 10th grade through 12th grade may babysit siblings for up to 24 hours or other non-sibling children for up to 12 hours.

g. In accordance with Army Regulation 608-10b, babysitters may not provide care in their own quarters in excess of 10 hours per week without certification through Family Child Care and approval by the Garrison Commander.

6. CHILD SUPERVISION OPTIONS: Table 3 lists child supervision criteria and supervision options. Parents should assess their children's capabilities before selecting a child supervision option. Parents who need assistance in identifying an option that meets their requirements should contact the Child, Youth & School Services Parent Central Registration at (907) 873-4599.

7. Point of contact for this memorandum is the CYS Services Coordinator at 907-873-4600.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TLC', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

TERRY L. CLARK
LTC, AG
Commanding

TABLE 1

Fort Greely Child Supervision Guidelines

Note: The following guidelines are established in accordance with United States Army Community and Family Support Center and Child Supervision policy. The policy is based on the child's grade and age. Children are considered to be in the grade just completed until the new school year begins. In all instances below where a "yes" is indicated, the parent is responsible for using reasonable judgment, based on the characteristics of their child, and for any incident or mishap which occurs.

Age or Grade of Child/Youth	May Be Left Alone at Home	May Be Left Alone Overnight	May Be Left Outside Unattended (including playing and bike riding)	May Be Left Unattended in a Car	May Babysit Siblings	May Babysit Others
Newborn to 1 st day of Kindergarten	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Grades K to 1 st day of 6th grade	NO	NO	Kindergarten through grade 3: Yes, if in a playground or yard with immediate access (sight or hearing distance) to adult supervision (notes 2 & 3) Children in this group may not walk to and from school or other supervised activities alone; Grades 4 and 5: Yes if in a playground or yard with ready access to adult supervision. 4 th and 5 th graders may walk to and from school and other DOD-sanctioned activities alone. Parents must consider the distance to the school, school-building opening time, hours of darkness, and the child's maturity level (notes 2,3&4) Yes, with ready access to adult supervision. (notes 2,3,4&6)	NO	NO	NO
Grades 6 to 1 st day of 8th grade	For up to 10 hours but not overnight (notes 2,3,4&6)	NO	YES (note 3)	For up to 15 minutes with the keys removed, doors locked, and the hand break applied. Yes (notes 2,3&5)	NO	NO
Grades 8 to 1 st day of 10 th grade (generally 13-15 years old)	Yes, but not overnight (note 3)	NO	YES (note 3)	Yes (notes 2,3&5)	Yes, for up to 10 hours but not overnight (notes 2,3,4&6) (Must be at least 13 years old)	Yes, for up to 10 hours but not overnight (notes 3,5) (Must be at least 13 years old)
Grades 10-12 (generally 15-18 years old)	For up to 24 hours, overnight, but a neighbor or friend must check on them twice a day. Minors will have telephone access to a neighbor in case of emergency and must know where at least one parent is. (notes 2,3,4&5)	Yes, parents must have adult supervision arranged to make checks twice daily. Must have telephone access to a neighbor in case of emergency and must know here at least one parent is. (notes 2,3,4,&5)	Yes (note 2)	Yes	Yes for up to 24 hours. (note 3,4&6)	Yes for up to 12 hours. (note 3,4&6)

NOTES:

1. Curfew is Sunday-Thursday at 2200 (10:00PM); Friday and Saturday at 2300 (11:00PM).
2. Adult supervision is defined as "someone who has or assumes responsibility for the child (for example, a parent, guardian, care provider, or friend)"
3. Parents are responsible for assessing the individual capabilities of their children. Questions to answer may include "Can your child solve problems independently?" "Does your child think through to the consequences before choosing to behave in a certain way?" "How does your child occupy himself or herself when left with free time?"
4. Ready access is defined as "a minimum telephone access and telephone number of each person designated as adult supervision." Immediate access is defined as: the adult has visual sight of the child and the child is within easy hearing distance of the adult. The adult provides visual checks on the child every 15-30 minutes.
5. Children may have difficulty assess dangerous weather conditions (for example extreme hot or cold) and taking action to protect themselves.
6. Red Cross and Child, Youth & School Services babysitting training is strongly recommended.

TABLE 2 Conversion From Age to Grade							
Age	4-5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Grade	Kindergarten	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th

Age	12	13	14	15	16	17-18	
Grade	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	

TABLE 3 Child-Supervision Criteria Supervision is a planned, consistent way to provide ongoing care for children to include necessities of nourishment, sanitation, and well being.			
Supervision Level	Definition	School Grade/Age Range	Supervision Options
Direct	Someone has responsibility for the child (for example, parent, guardian, care provider, friend).	Elementary school (Kindergarten through	CYSS-Sponsored: *School-Age Center (SAC) *Child Development Center (CDC) *Family Child Care (FCC) Other Options: *In-Home Babysitter *Nanny
Monitored	Ad adult is aware of child's location and activities. An emergency contact is available at all times.	Grades 6 through 9; generally 11 to 14 years old.	CYSS Sponsored: *SAC and YC programs *Team Sports *Instructional Classes *Clubs and Volunteer activities Community Resources: *Designated adult *Schools *Churches *Scouts
Monitored Self-Care	Parent have assessed their child's ability and allowed the child to monitor him or herself	Grades 6 through 9; generally 11 to 14 years old.	